

**REMARKS**

In response to the Office Action mailed on February 29, 2008, Applicants elect claims 1-8, 14, 15, 17, 20-25, 27-29, 34, 36, 37, 42, 43, 47-92, 95, 98, 100, 102-104, 107-109, 112, and 114, with traverse.

Applicants thank Examiner Gakh for her time in conducting a telephonic interview on March 31, 2008. The substance of the interview concerned the Examiner's difficulty in conducting a search based on the breadth of the claims. Further to that interview, the Examiner directed Applicants to elect a species within claim 21 of Group V. As noted above, Applicants elect the species in which the active ester is N-hydroxysuccinimidyl ester, with traverse. The Examiner also directed Applicants to elect a species within claims 25 and 98 of Group VI. Applicants elect the species in which the reporter is a piperidine or piperazine compound, with traverse.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the restriction requirement.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any applicable fees to Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP's Deposit Account No. 150665 and to credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account No. 150665.

Respectfully submitted,

ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP

Dated: March 31, 2008

By: \_\_\_\_\_



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